

that eat the Mortar, which keep not above eight dayes alive. I have observed all their parts with a very good *Microscope*, without which, and a great deal of attention, 'tis difficult to see them well.

I have seen other very old Walls altogether eaten, as those of the *Temple* at *Paris*, where I could find no Worms, but the Cavities were full of Shells of various kinds, diversly figur'd and turn'd : all which I believe to be little Animals petrified.

*Some promiscuous Observations, made in Somersfet-shire, and imparted by the above-mention'd Dr. Beale.*

His words are these, in a Letter to the *Publisher*, of the 24. *Septemb.* 1666. at *Yeovill* in *Somersfet-shire*;

I have two or three remarks, perhaps not unworthy to be recorded for further application in like cases of time and place.

1. In the Moores from hence towards *Fridgewater*, in the extreme drought, we have endured this Summer, some lengths of pasture grew much sooner withered and parched, than the other pasture. And this parched part seem'd to bear the length and shape (in grosse) of Trees. They digg'd, and found, in the place, *Oakes* indeed, as black as *Ebony*. And hence they have been instructed to find and take up many hundreds of *Oakes*, as a neighbour of good credit assures me. This advertisement may be instructive for other parts, as *Kent*, *Essex*, *Lincoln*, &c.

2. My Cousen *Philips* of *Montagne* has in his pastures of *Socke*, about three miles off, a large Pool, to which Pigeons resort; but the Cattle will not drink of it, no not in the extream want of water in this drought. To the taste it is not only brackish, but hath other loathsome tastes. In a Venice-glass it looked greenish and clear, just like the most greenish Cider as soon as it is perfectly clarified. I boyl'd a Pint of it in a Posnet of Bell-Mettall (commonly used to preserve Sweatmeats :) suddenly it yeilded a thick froth, whence I scumm'd half a score Spoonfulls; of which the inclosed is a part. \*Suffring the water to be boyl'd all away, it left much of the same on the sides and bottom of the Posnet.

*\* This had somewhat of a Vitriolate taste. But the Experiment being made with greater quantities of this water, which questionless will be done, the nature and kind of it may be better known.*

3. From *Lampport*, towards *Bridge-water*, *Eeles* are so cheap in the frosts of Winter, that they vend them for little. Their abundance is from hence, that as the people walk, in the frosty Mornings, on the banks of the river, they discern, towards the edges of the banks, some parts not hoare, as the rest, but green; where searching the holes of the banks, they find heaps of *Eeles*.